

# EXHIBIT 1

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Southern District of New York

Aubrey Drake Graham

*Plaintiff*

v.

UMG Recordings, Inc.

*Defendant*

Civil Action No. 25-CV-00399 (JAV)

SUBPOENA TO PRODUCE DOCUMENTS, INFORMATION, OR OBJECTS  
OR TO PERMIT INSPECTION OF PREMISES IN A CIVIL ACTION

To:

Kojo Menne Asamoah  
722 Jackson Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012*(Name of person to whom this subpoena is directed)*

☒ **Production:** **YOU ARE COMMANDED** to produce at the time, date, and place set forth below the following documents, electronically stored information, or objects, and to permit inspection, copying, testing, or sampling of the material: See Schedule A

Place: Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP  
2029 Century Park E, Los Angeles, CA 90067

Date and Time:

03/28/2025 9:30 am

☐ **Inspection of Premises:** **YOU ARE COMMANDED** to permit entry onto the designated premises, land, or other property possessed or controlled by you at the time, date, and location set forth below, so that the requesting party may inspect, measure, survey, photograph, test, or sample the property or any designated object or operation on it.

Place:

Date and Time:

The following provisions of Fed. R. Civ. P. 45 are attached – Rule 45(c), relating to the place of compliance; Rule 45(d), relating to your protection as a person subject to a subpoena; and Rule 45(e) and (g), relating to your duty to respond to this subpoena and the potential consequences of not doing so.

Date: 03/14/2025

CLERK OF COURT

OR

*Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk*

/s/ Michael J. Gottlieb

*Attorney's signature*

The name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number of the attorney representing *(name of party)* \_\_\_\_\_

Aubrey Drake Graham \_\_\_\_\_, who issues or requests this subpoena, are:

Michael Gottlieb, Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP, 1875 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006-1238,  
mgottlieb@willkie.com, (202) 303-1000

**Notice to the person who issues or requests this subpoena**

A notice and a copy of the subpoena must be served on each party in this case before it is served on the person to whom it is directed. Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(a)(4).

Civil Action No. 25-CV-00399 (JAV)

**PROOF OF SERVICE***(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 45.)*

I received this subpoena for *(name of individual and title, if any)* \_\_\_\_\_  
 on *(date)* \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ I served the subpoena by delivering a copy to the named person as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ on *(date)* \_\_\_\_\_; or

☐ I returned the subpoena unexecuted because: \_\_\_\_\_

Unless the subpoena was issued on behalf of the United States, or one of its officers or agents, I have also  
 tendered to the witness the fees for one day's attendance, and the mileage allowed by law, in the amount of  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

My fees are \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for travel and \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for services, for a total of \$ 0.00 .

I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
*Server's signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed name and title*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Server's address*

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc.:

**Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 45 (c), (d), (e), and (g) (Effective 12/1/13)****(c) Place of Compliance.**

**(1) For a Trial, Hearing, or Deposition.** A subpoena may command a person to attend a trial, hearing, or deposition only as follows:

- (A) within 100 miles of where the person resides, is employed, or regularly transacts business in person; or
- (B) within the state where the person resides, is employed, or regularly transacts business in person, if the person
  - (i) is a party or a party's officer; or
  - (ii) is commanded to attend a trial and would not incur substantial expense.

**(2) For Other Discovery.** A subpoena may command:

- (A) production of documents, electronically stored information, or tangible things at a place within 100 miles of where the person resides, is employed, or regularly transacts business in person; and
- (B) inspection of premises at the premises to be inspected.

**(d) Protecting a Person Subject to a Subpoena; Enforcement.**

**(1) Avoiding Undue Burden or Expense; Sanctions.** A party or attorney responsible for issuing and serving a subpoena must take reasonable steps to avoid imposing undue burden or expense on a person subject to the subpoena. The court for the district where compliance is required must enforce this duty and impose an appropriate sanction—which may include lost earnings and reasonable attorney's fees—on a party or attorney who fails to comply.

**(2) Command to Produce Materials or Permit Inspection.**

(A) *Appearance Not Required.* A person commanded to produce documents, electronically stored information, or tangible things, or to permit the inspection of premises, need not appear in person at the place of production or inspection unless also commanded to appear for a deposition, hearing, or trial.

(B) *Objections.* A person commanded to produce documents or tangible things or to permit inspection may serve on the party or attorney designated in the subpoena a written objection to inspecting, copying, testing, or sampling any or all of the materials or to inspecting the premises—or to producing electronically stored information in the form or forms requested. The objection must be served before the earlier of the time specified for compliance or 14 days after the subpoena is served. If an objection is made, the following rules apply:

- (i) At any time, on notice to the commanded person, the serving party may move the court for the district where compliance is required for an order compelling production or inspection.
- (ii) These acts may be required only as directed in the order, and the order must protect a person who is neither a party nor a party's officer from significant expense resulting from compliance.

**(3) Quashing or Modifying a Subpoena.**

(A) *When Required.* On timely motion, the court for the district where compliance is required must quash or modify a subpoena that:

- (i) fails to allow a reasonable time to comply;
- (ii) requires a person to comply beyond the geographical limits specified in Rule 45(c);
- (iii) requires disclosure of privileged or other protected matter, if no exception or waiver applies; or
- (iv) subjects a person to undue burden.

(B) *When Permitted.* To protect a person subject to or affected by a subpoena, the court for the district where compliance is required may, on motion, quash or modify the subpoena if it requires:

- (i) disclosing a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information; or

(ii) disclosing an unretained expert's opinion or information that does not describe specific occurrences in dispute and results from the expert's study that was not requested by a party.

(C) *Specifying Conditions as an Alternative.* In the circumstances described in Rule 45(d)(3)(B), the court may, instead of quashing or modifying a subpoena, order appearance or production under specified conditions if the serving party:

- (i) shows a substantial need for the testimony or material that cannot be otherwise met without undue hardship; and
- (ii) ensures that the subpoenaed person will be reasonably compensated.

**(e) Duties in Responding to a Subpoena.**

**(1) Producing Documents or Electronically Stored Information.** These procedures apply to producing documents or electronically stored information:

(A) *Documents.* A person responding to a subpoena to produce documents must produce them as they are kept in the ordinary course of business or must organize and label them to correspond to the categories in the demand.

(B) *Form for Producing Electronically Stored Information Not Specified.* If a subpoena does not specify a form for producing electronically stored information, the person responding must produce it in a form or forms in which it is ordinarily maintained or in a reasonably usable form or forms.

(C) *Electronically Stored Information Produced in Only One Form.* The person responding need not produce the same electronically stored information in more than one form.

(D) *Inaccessible Electronically Stored Information.* The person responding need not provide discovery of electronically stored information from sources that the person identifies as not reasonably accessible because of undue burden or cost. On motion to compel discovery or for a protective order, the person responding must show that the information is not reasonably accessible because of undue burden or cost. If that showing is made, the court may nonetheless order discovery from such sources if the requesting party shows good cause, considering the limitations of Rule 26(b)(2)(C). The court may specify conditions for the discovery.

**(2) Claiming Privilege or Protection.**

(A) *Information Withheld.* A person withholding subpoenaed information under a claim that it is privileged or subject to protection as trial-preparation material must:

- (i) expressly make the claim; and
- (ii) describe the nature of the withheld documents, communications, or tangible things in a manner that, without revealing information itself privileged or protected, will enable the parties to assess the claim.

(B) *Information Produced.* If information produced in response to a subpoena is subject to a claim of privilege or of protection as trial-preparation material, the person making the claim may notify any party that received the information of the claim and the basis for it. After being notified, a party must promptly return, sequester, or destroy the specified information and any copies it has; must not use or disclose the information until the claim is resolved; must take reasonable steps to retrieve the information if the party disclosed it before being notified; and may promptly present the information under seal to the court for the district where compliance is required for a determination of the claim. The person who produced the information must preserve the information until the claim is resolved.

**(g) Contempt.**

The court for the district where compliance is required—and also, after a motion is transferred, the issuing court—may hold in contempt a person who, having been served, fails without adequate excuse to obey the subpoena or an order related to it.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

AUBREY DRAKE GRAHAM,

Plaintiff,

V.

UMG RECORDINGS, INC.,

Defendant.

Civil Action No. 1:25-cv-399-JAV

**PLAINTIFF AUBREY DRAKE GRAHAM’S RULE 45 SUBPOENA  
TO KOJO MENNE ASAMOAH**

Pursuant to Rules 45 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (“FRCP”) and Local Civil Rule 26.3, Plaintiff Aubrey Drake Graham (“Drake” or “Plaintiff”) in the above-captioned civil action hereby requests that Kojo Menne Asamoah (“You”) produce all documents, electronically stored information, and tangible things in Your possession, custody, or control that are responsive to these Requests for Production of Documents (the “Requests” or “Subpoena”). Each individual Request shall be read and interpreted in accordance with the definitions and instructions set forth below.

## **SCHEDULE A**

This subpoena for documents, including each individual Request for Documents, shall be read and interpreted in accordance with the definitions and instructions set forth below.

### **GENERAL DEFINITIONS**

Plaintiff incorporate by reference all the instructions, definitions, and rules contained in the FRCP and the Local Civil Rule 26.3 for purposes of this Subpoena, and the following definitions shall apply:

1. Unless words or terms have been given a specific definition herein, each word or term used herein shall be given its usual and customary dictionary definition.

2. The terms defined herein should be construed broadly to the fullest extent of their meaning in a good faith effort to comply with the FRCP.

3. “And” and “or” shall be construed either disjunctively or conjunctively as necessary to bring within the scope of the Requests all information that might otherwise be construed to be outside of their scope.

4. “You,” “Your,” or “Yours” refers to Kojo Menne Asamoah and includes any persons or entities acting for You or on Your behalf, including but not limited to all representatives, servants, agents, employees, officers, affiliates, subsidiaries, parent companies, third parties, as well as any entities over which You have control.

5. “Communication” means, in addition to its customary and usual meaning, every contact of any nature, whether documentary, electronic, written or oral, formal or informal, at any time or place and under any circumstances whatsoever whereby information of any nature is transmitted or transferred by any means, including, but not limited to letters, memoranda, reports, emails, text messages, instant messages, social media, telegrams, invoices, telephone

conversations, voicemail messages, audio recordings, face-to-face meetings and conversations, or any other form of communication, and any Document relating to such contact, including but not limited to correspondence, memoranda, notes or logs of telephone conversations, e-mail, electronic chats, text messages on any platform, instant messages, direct or private messages, correspondence in “meet ups” or chat rooms, and all other correspondence on Social Media. Without limiting the foregoing in any manner, commenting as well as any act of expression that is not directed at a specific person, or otherwise may not be intended to provoke a response (such as a social media posting, “likes,” “shares,” or any other form of reacting to another’s use of Social Media), are forms of communication.

6. “Document” or “Documents” means documents broadly defined in Rule 34 of the FRCP and includes (i) papers of all kinds, including, but not limited to, originals and copies, however made, of letters, memoranda, hand-written notes, notebooks, work-pads, messages, agreements, rough drafts, drawings, sketches, pictures, posters, pamphlets, publications, news articles, advertisements, sales literature, brochures, announcements, bills, receipts, bank checks, credit card statements, and (ii) non-paper information of all kinds, including but not limited to, any computer generated or electronic data such as digital videos, digital photographs, audio recordings, podcasts, Internet files (including “bookmarks” and browser history), word documents, note taken electronically, online articles and publications, website content, electronic mail (e-mail), electronic chats, instant messages, text messages, uploads, posts, status updates, comments, “likes”, “shares”, direct messages, all Social Media activity, or any other use of ephemeral communications services or Social Media, and (iii) any other writings, records, or tangible objects produced or reproduced mechanically, electrically, electronically, photographically, or chemically. Without limiting the foregoing in any way, every Communication is also a Document.

7. “Relating to” means “concerning,” “referring to,” “describing,” “evidencing,” or “constituting.”

8. “Social Media” means any forum, website, application, or other platform on which persons can create, transmit, share, communicate, or comment upon any information, ideas, or opinions, or otherwise engage in social networking, including but not limited to: X (formerly known as Twitter), Rumble, Gab, MeWe, Periscope, Facebook, Discord, Reddit, Imgur, SnapChat, Instagram, Google+, 4chan, 8chan, Tumblr, Youtube, LinkedIn, Flickr, Reddit, Quora, Disqus, Slack, Whisper, Yik Yak, Medium, WordPress, WeChat, and instant messaging services such as Signal, WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, Hangouts, Skype, Line, KakaoTalk, Telegram, and CyberDust. Without limiting the foregoing in any manner, and by way of example only, the following are Social Media activity: uploading, posting, commenting, reacting (e.g., “liking” a post), sharing, and communicating on comment sections of Social Media.

### **SPECIFIC DEFINITIONS**

1. “Bots” refers to software programs designed to mimic human behavior to appear to be real social media accounts.

2. “Image” refers to the accompanying cover image to the Recording, which depicts Plaintiff’s home in Toronto, Canada, and was first published on May 4, 2024.

3. “Recording” refers to the vocal performance of the recording artist Kendrick Lamar Duckworth, professionally known as “Kendrick Lamar,” and embodying the musical composition co-written by Kendrick Lamar, titled “Not Like Us,” which was first published on May 4, 2024.

4. “UMG” refers to UMG Recordings, Inc. and includes any persons or entities acting for UMG or on UMG’s behalf, including but not limited to all representatives, servants, agents, employees, officers, affiliates, contractors, subsidiaries, parent companies, and third parties, as



well as any entities over which UMG has control, including but not limited to Interscope Records (“Interscope”), Republic Records (“Republic”), and Universal Music Publishing Group (“UMPG”).

5. “Video” refers to the music video for the Recording, which was first published on July 4, 2024.

6. “Payola” refers to the practice of paying for radio plays or other promotion without disclosure, prohibited by the Communications Act of 1934 (see 47 U.S.C. §§ 317, 508).

7. “Musical Works” mean any sound recordings of a musical composition, along with any accompanying lyrics, to which a copyright owner has the rights to make and distribute copies, publicly perform or display, make derivative works, and license for use by third parties.

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Unless otherwise specified, the relevant time period for the Requests is May 4, 2024 through the present.

2. Your responses to the following Requests shall be based on all knowledge and information (whether or not hearsay or admissible) in Your possession, custody, or control.

3. Produce all responsive documents in Your possession, custody, or control, regardless of whether such documents are possessed directly by You or persons under Your control, including Your agents, employees, representatives, or attorneys, or their agents, employees, or representatives.

4. If no responsive documents exist for any particular requests, specifically state that no responsive documents exist.

5. If any responsive document was, but is no longer, in Your possession, custody, or control, state the date and manner of its disposition, and identify its last known custodian and/or

location. To the extent that any responsive document was lost or destroyed, produce any document that supports Your assertion that the document was lost or destroyed, provide the date when each such document was lost or destroyed, and the name, role, and title of the individual who authorized or requested the destruction of the document.

6. These Requests are continuing in nature. If, after making initial responses, You obtain or become aware of any further Documents responsive to the Requests, You must supplement Your responses and provide such Documents.

7. If You object to production in response to a specific request, You shall state with particularity the basis for all objections with respect to such request. You shall respond to any and all portions of any request that do not fall within the scope of Your objection.

8. If, in responding to any of the following Requests, You encounter any ambiguity or confusion in construing either a Request or a Definition or Instruction relevant to a Request, set forth the matter deemed ambiguous, select a reasonable interpretation that you believe resolves the ambiguity, respond to the Request using that interpretation, and explain with particularity the construction or interpretation selected by You in responding to the Request.

9. Whether or not You object to a particular Request, You must preserve all documents and communications relevant to the above-captioned matter, including all documents and communications responsive to these Requests.

10. Produce each responsive document in its entirety including with all attachments or other matters affixed thereto. Documents attached to each other should not be separated.

11. All documents shall be produced in electronic form and shall include related metadata. Produce in TIFF or native format (i.e., Word documents as .DOC or .DOCX files, Outlook emails as .PST files, Excel spreadsheets as .XLS or .XLSX files, Adobe PDF documents

as .PDF files). For all forms of electronically stored information, ensure that electronically stored information is provided in unencrypted form and free of password protection.

12. Any alteration of a responsive document, including any marginal notes, handwritten notes, underlining, date stamps, received stamps, endorsed or filed stamps, drafts, revisions, modifications, and other versions of a document, is a responsive document in its own right and must be produced.

13. In instances where two or more exact duplicates of any document exist, the most legible copy shall be produced.

14. Certify that Your production is complete and correct in accordance with specifications of the attached Certification that Response is Complete and Correct form provided as Exhibit 1.

15. If you have withheld from production responsive documents or tangible things on the basis that you assert a claim of privilege as to that document or thing, You shall prepare a list of withheld documents and things that lists the following information for each such document or thing, or part thereof, withheld on such a basis:

- (a) the type of document, e.g., letter or memorandum;
- (b) the general subject matter of the document;
- (c) the date of the document;
- (d) such other information as is sufficient to identify the document for a subpoena duces tecum, including, where appropriate, the author of the document, the addressees of the document, and any other recipients shown in the document, and, where not apparent, the relationship of the author, addressees, and recipients to each other;

- (e) the nature and the basis for the claim of privilege; and
- (f) sufficient additional information about the document as is necessary to justify your claim of privilege.

**DOCUMENTS TO BE PRODUCED**

**DOCUMENT REQUEST NO. 1:**

All Documents and Communications relating to the payment of money or conferral of other benefits by UMG, its agents, or anyone working on its behalf or Kendrick Lamar Duckworth, his agents, or anyone working on his behalf to You in exchange for the playing, promoting, or recommending of the Recording, Image, or Video.

**DOCUMENT REQUEST NO. 2:**

All Documents and Communications relating to any allegations, concerns, complaints or reports, whether formal or informal, oral or written, made to You relating to Payola violations regarding any Musical Works by Kendrick Lamar Duckworth.

**DOCUMENT REQUEST NO. 3:**

All Documents and Communications relating to the payment and reimbursements of marketing funds by any name from UMG directly or indirectly for the benefit of Kendrick Lamar Duckworth, or any person working on his behalf.

**DOCUMENT REQUEST NO. 4:**

All Documents and Communications relating to the use of Bots or similar methods in connection with any Musical Works by Kendrick Lamar Duckworth.

**DOCUMENT REQUEST NO. 5:**

All Communications between You and Ayman “Anthony” Saleh relating to the Recording, Image, Video, Bots, or Payola.

**DOCUMENT REQUEST NO. 6:**

All Communications between You and Ramon Alvarez-Smikle relating to the Recording, Image, Video, Bots, or Payola.

**DOCUMENT REQUEST NO. 7:**

All Communications between You and Josh Kaplan relating to the Recording, Image, Video, Bots, or Payola.

**DOCUMENT REQUEST NO. 8:**

All Communications between You and David Isaac Friley, known professionally as “Dave Free” relating to the Recording, Image, Video, Bots, or Payola.

**DOCUMENT REQUEST NO. 9:**

All Communications between You and Kendrick Lamar Duckworth relating to the Recording, Image, Video, Bots, or Payola.

**DOCUMENT REQUEST NO. 10:**

Documents and Communications sufficient to show all phone numbers, email addresses, and Social Media accounts You use, access, or control.

**EXHIBIT 1**

**CERTIFICATION THAT RESPONSE IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, certify as follows:

1. The enclosed production of Documents and Communications were prepared and assembled under my personal supervision;
2. The Documents and Communications contained in this production to the Subpoena are authentic, genuine and what they purport to be;
3. Attached is a true and accurate record of all persons who prepared and assembled any productions and responses to the Subpoena, all persons under whose personal supervision the preparation and assembly of productions and responses to the Subpoena occurred, and all persons able competently to testify: (a) that such productions and responses are complete and correct to the best of such person's knowledge and belief; and (b) that any Documents produced are authentic, genuine and what they purport to be; and
4. Attached is a true and accurate statement of those requests under the Subpoena as to which no responsive Documents were located in the course of the aforementioned search.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, e-mail and telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_